

The BUZZ

WORD

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May 2023



Having the Best Easter Egg Hunt costume and a basket full of chocolate Easter eggs is a sure way to get friends to share in your joy ... and candy!

www.vvh.vermont.gov



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

Fulfilling the Promise

The Vermont Veterans' Home was established in Bennington in 1884. It is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The VVH offers a complete range of specialized care services for its residents. VVH goals focus on ensuring the dignity, independence, and the highest possible care and quality of life for each resident.

VVH is licensed to meet all levels of care for its residents and the VVH's departments and staff work together to provide those levels of care.

For any Further Questions, Please Contact:

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<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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From the Administrator—Melissa Jackson



To our Veterans, Members and VVH Family,

As we enter into May our activity calendar for weekend and special events is filling up quickly. Here is a list of upcoming events:

May 7 th	12 PM	Elks Steak Dinner Bennington Elks
May 29 th	11 AM	Bennington Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony VVH Memorial
June 17 th	11AM	Father's Day Car Show on the Front Lawn
June 25 th		Annual Fishing Derby
July 5 th	6:30 PM	Eagles Band Concert on the Front Lawn

We will be adding a special event section to our webpage to keep you up to date on the events. I hope to see you at these events.

Take care,

Melissa

Melissa A. Jackson, MBA, FACHCA

Chief Executive Officer

www.vvh.vermont.gov



THANK YOU

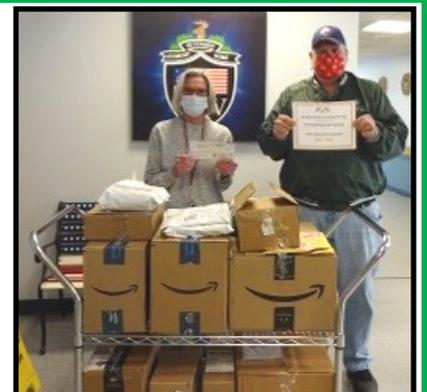
The VFW Auxiliary Post 1332 and the American Legion Auxiliary Post 13 presented a very generous donation to Melissa Jackson, CEO, towards two new projects at the VVH.

L-R: Nancy Sterling, Gail Beaugard, Joyce Gustavson, Donna Stone, Michele Burgess, VFW President Elaine Sherman, Melissa, CEO and Darlene Cumm Am. Legion President.



L: Melissa, CEO, received a sizable monetary donation from The Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 for our Veterans and Members.

R: In addition, for the Social Activities Room, an assortment of media equipment was made possible through the 2023 Beacon/Spotlight Grant. Toiletries and a large variety of arts and crafts supplies were donated as well.



*From the Deputy Administrator
Asa Morin*



Have you met “The Hug?”

The hug is a sensory device developed for use with people with late-stage dementia. It serves to fulfill a basic need to feel nurtured, allowing the person to give a hug and receive one in return with its soft weighted arms. On the outside it is soft and cuddly and on the inside is an electronic device that simulates a beating heart.

We hope to use the Hug not only for those with dementia, but also for those with anxiety or PTSD and at end of life to help provide comfort.

You truly must experience how it feels to get a Hug!



Asa

Asa Morin, MSW, LICSW, LNHA

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On March 29, the **50th ANNIVERSARY VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION** pinning ceremony was attended by VVH Veterans. The event was held at the Empire State Aeroscience Museum in Schenectady, NY.



The Pin is
**“ A LASTING
MEMENTO
OF THE
NATION’S THANKS”**

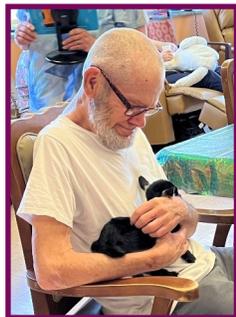
for the Veterans’
service to their
Country.

Love is

Love is sharing and caring...
It doesn't seek revenge
Love doesn't insult
Love is kind and gentle..
When you have it..
Nothing else feels as good..
Love is a beautiful handshake
A kind word to the lonely
A hot meal to a sickbound friend
Love is so wonderful
All of creation should possess it and
Then we would have a
A happier place on Earth..and above

CA Crawford

Happiness is a.....baby goat

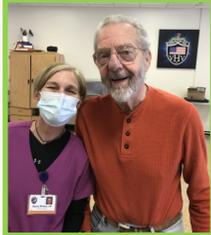


EGG HUNT



**Preparing
1000 eggs
for the
egg hunt**





For finding the most eggs, the golden eggs and the specially colored eggs the **WINNERS ARE**

The Prize Consultants



North
Stephan

Brandon
Leroy

DOM
Willy

American
Vinny

Southern Vermont Natural History Museum with Michael



Veterans & Members thoroughly enjoyed learning about the habits of an owl, falcon, possum, turtle and everyone's favorite... The snake.





On behalf of the
Veterans and Members,
we sincerely thank the
following for their very
generous donations:



VFW Auxiliary Post 1332
American Legion Auxiliary Post 13
American Legion Department of Vermont
Springfield Elks Lodge #1560
Crippen-Fellows Auxiliary Unit 50
American Legion Post 69
Margaret Galvin
Phyllis and Rhonda Roberts
Steve Leach
Marilyn Ficalora
Jack Frielingsdorf
Debbie Craig
State of Vermont Treasure's Office
Priscilla Lanpher
Joel Whiting
Northeast Kingdom Eagles Ladies Auxiliary #4329
Nicole Breault

In Memory of John Hamilton

Wesley Baker Living Trust

In Memory of Richard Vitagliano

Melanie & Jonathan Perry
Carole Ann Thorp

**THANK YOU
CRIPPEN-FELLOWS UNIT 50**

for the wide variety of items donated for the enjoyment and use by our Veterans and Members. Jewelry, toiletries, lounge pants and blankets, lap blankets and socks were just a sampling of the gifts too numerous to mention.

**VFW POST 1332
THANK YOU**

for the complimentary tickets to your special events, such as dinners and music events for our independent Veterans and Members. Some of our residents have already taken advantage of your generous offers!

**VVH Staff Recognition
Years of Service**

ACTIVITIES

Michelle Hunt — 18 years
Samantha Caron — 6 years

ADMINISTRATION

Asa Morin, COO — 9 years
Marion Ryberg — 11 years

CLEANING, HOUSEKEEPING, LAUNDRY

Rick Cottrell — 18 years
Belinda Matte — 12 years

DIETARY

Carla Lambert — 10 years
Jordan Ross — 1 year

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

John Boulger — 18 years
Jon Endres — 9 years
Anthony Antonio — 6 years
Stephen Bennett — 4 years
Robert LaBrake — 2 years

FINANCE

Althea Kane — 6 years

NURSING

Melissa Hurt — 30 years
Courtney Zazzaro — 14 years
Jessica Godspeed — 9 years
Danielle Record — 9 years
Shannyn MacVicar — 4 years
Tara Bills — 3 years

Social Services

Aisling Taft — 2 years



THE BUZZ WORD

Three ways for you to receive the Vermont Veterans' Home monthly newsletter:

- ♦ Vermont Veterans' Home website:
www.vvh.vermont.gov
Click on About Our Home
Click on Newsletters
- ♦ Email
- ♦ Mailing List (postal)

To be added to our lists please contact:

The Buzz Word
Vermont Veterans' Home
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201

Robyn Boland
(802) 447-6523
Email: Robyn.Boland@vermont.gov

VVH WISH LIST

"Music and Memory" Players

A monetary donation of \$30.00 provides a customized music player to a Veteran or Member.

Fidget Blankets

Crafts

Neck Pillows

Aromatherapy Lotions

Relaxation Oils

Your donations are gratefully accepted.



THANK YOU

Please make the check for monetary donations to:

**Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

Please include the purpose in the "memo".

Due to COVID-19, we are still not able to accept:
books, CDs, puzzles or used clothing.

**PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL NO LONGER ACCEPT
DVDs due to modern technology of TV's and
streaming availability.**

We will keep you posted when changes are made.
Thank you for your patience and understanding.

DONATION INFORMATION

Your donations are gratefully accepted. Please make check out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

**Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

Please indicate in the memo area of the check to which fund(s) you are donating:

Members Assistance:

Directly to Veterans/Members
Furniture, Haircuts, Clothing
Other personal needs

Namaste Program Fund:

Oils for relaxation
Supplies, Equipment

Unrestricted Fund:

Facility equipment
Large purchase

Activities Fund:

Entertainment

Music & Memory Fund:

Memory Music Player

Veteran's Mobility Trail

Monetary donations toward
a paved walkway around
the perimeter of the VVH

Wreaths for Veterans

Donations will go towards the purchase of a \$15
wreath for the wreath-laying ceremony

A former Sergeant in the Marine Corps took a new job as a high school teacher.

Just before the school year started, he injured his back. He was required to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. Fortunately, the cast fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable.

On the first day of class, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school. The smart punks, having already heard the new teacher was a former Marine, were leery of him and he knew they would be testing his discipline in the classroom.

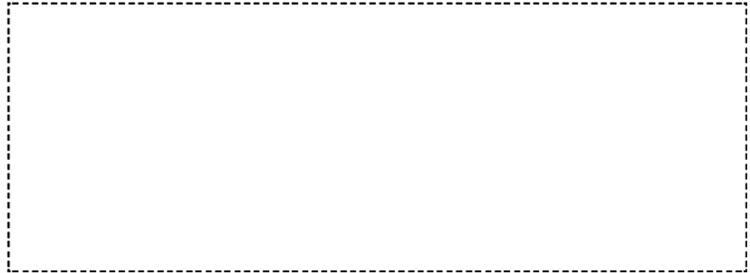
Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, the new teacher opened the window wide and sat down at his desk. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he picked up a stapler and stapled the tie to his chest.

Dead silence...

The rest of the year went very smoothly.



Vermont Veterans' Home
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201



***“FULFILLING THE PROMISE: Caring for the
Veterans of Vermont and their families”***

